(b) if so, the details including the estimated cost thereof?

(c) whether the Union Government and the State Government have approved a time-bound and phased programme to construct the project jointly;

(d) if so, the the estimated expenditure proposed to be born by the Union Government and the State Government separately; and

(e) the time by which it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

[English]

Postal Services

*563 SHRI G M C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any new system like Speed Post for better postal services in the rural, coastal and tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any new steps for the modernisation of the existing postal system in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Introduction to Speed Post to new cities/towns including tribal, rural and coastal areas is an ongoing process keeping in view the customers needs, availability of suitable transmission network and traffic and Commercial viability.

(c) and (d). It is proposed in the 8th Plan to modernise the existing postal system by introducing mechanised sorting machines in metro cities, electronic money transfer and Computer based multipurpose counter machines in post office

Mulwada and Upper Tunga Projects

*564. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted Mulwada and Upper Tunga Project reports for World Bank assistance;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the area proposed to be irrigated from the projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The area proposed to be irrigated under Mulwadi Lift Irrigation Scheme is 29, 500 hectares and that under the Upper Tunga Project is 94,698 hectares

News in Regional Languages

*565 SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: